



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LIFE SENTENCE IN FEDERAL PRISON HANDED DOWN THIS AFTERNOON
TO WACO DRUG DEALER**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that 40-year-old Trini Lopez Espinoza of Waco, was sentenced late this afternoon to life in federal prison for conspiracy to distribute at least 150 kilograms of cocaine.

In addition, Espinoza's co-defendants 56-year-old Rosemary Trujillo Rangel of Waco, 28-year-old Patricio Nevarez of Waco and 31-year-old Jasen Cervantez of Waco were sentenced to 20 years, 188 months and 188 months in federal prison, respectively. United States Chief District Judge Walter S. Smith, Jr., also ordered that each defendant be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing the prison term.

In December 2007, the defendants pleaded to cocaine distribution charges. By pleading guilty, Espinoza, Rangel and Cervantez admitted to participating in an conspiracy from 2003 to February 2007 that was responsible for using automobiles to smuggle cocaine into the United States from Mexico for distribution in Waco as well as other Texas cities along the Interstate 35 corridor. Patricio Nevarez, who pleaded guilty to one count of possessing cocaine with intent to distribute, was proven at sentencing that he also participated in the drug organization.

The case was investigated by Drug Enforcement Administration, Texas Department of Public Safety Narcotics Unit and the Waco Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Mark Frazier prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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